

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

AGR-20 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 SWF-02 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 DRC-01 /177 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7937

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, FAO

SUBAJCT: FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE - FINAL RESOLUTIONS

1. WRAP-UP CABLE FILED FROM PANAMA FRIDAY AFTERNOON BY U.S. DELEGATION, BUT ACTION ON ALL RESOLUTIONS NOT COMPLETED UNTIL EVENING. VERBATIM RESOLUTIONS AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON FROM RALPH PHILLIPS, USDA, U.S. DELEGATE. KRIESBERG, ALTERNATE AT FAO MEETING, REPORTS THAT PRESS REPORTS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPERS AVAILABLE IN PANAMA SATURDAY MORNING FOLLOWING FAO MEETING ESSENTIALLY CORRECT ON PANAMA SPONSORED RESOLUTION ASKING MEMBER COUNTRIES VOTE CENSURE OF MANEUVERS OF TRANS-NATIONAL COMPANIES." HOWEVER, PURPOSE OF RESOLUTION AIMED MORE AT OTHER BANANA COUNTRIES WHO WERE NOT SUPPORTING PANAMA EFFORT THAN AT U.S. ECUADOR PRINCIPAL TARGET OF PANAMA MOVE GAVE LONG EXPLANATION OF ITS POSITION OF CONTINUED COOPERATION AND GOOD RELATIONS WITH COMPANIES AND HENCE EXPRESSED RESERVATION ON CENSURE VOTE.

2. U.S. DELEGATE CLOSELY FOLLOWED COURSE CLEARED PREVIOUSLY THROUGH EMBASSY, GAVE LOW KEY DISPASSIONATE EXPLANATION: NOT KNOWLEDGEABLE OF FACTS ON EITHER SIDE OF DISPUTE, KNEW U.S. WANTED EARLY AND JUST SETTLEMENT, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNDERSTOOD THT NEGOTIATIONS WERE IN PROCESS TOWARDS

THIS END. BUT IN ABSENCE OF MORE INFORMATION COULD NOT VOTE FOR CENSURE AND HENCE REGISTERED ABSTENTION. NO OTHER OPPOSITION VOICED, AND RESOLUTION PASSED BY CONSENSUS. NO VOTING ACTUALLY RECORDED.

3. RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY ARGENTINE HAD SIMILAR WHEREAS CLAUSES CONCERNING TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND OPERATIVE CLAUSE ASKED CENSURE OF SUCH CORPORATIONS ACTING IN VIOLATION OF PRINCIPLES AGREED UPON IN UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECLARATION ON A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. WHILE TONE OF THIS RESOLUTION SIMILAR TO ONE SPONSORED BY PANAMA AND HENCE LINKED TOGETHER IN PRESS REPORTS, ACTUAL OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS PRIMARILY CONCERNED THAT FAO STUDIES ON INTERNAL CONSTRAINTS TO EXPORTS BY LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES INCLUDE A CONSIDERATION OF OPERATIONS OF TRANSNATIONAL COMPANIES. ALSO WANTED SUCH STUDIES TO PROVIDE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WITH BASIS FOR REVIEWING AGREEMENTS WITH SUCH CORPORATIONS IN THE LIGHT OF PRINCIPLES SET IN UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER.

4. U.S. DELEGATE EXPRESSED SOME RESERVATION ON WORDING BUT NO OPPOSITION WAS VOICED BY OTHER DELEGATES AND RESOLUTION PASSED BY CONSENSUS, NO VOTES TAKEN.

5. LEADERSHIP IN THIS FAO CONFERENCE MAINTAINED BY ACTIVISTS IN DELEGATIONS OF PANAMA, CUBA, PERU AND VENEZUELA. U.S. DELEGATION FOLLOWED U.S. POLICY OF LOW KEY ROLE IN KEEPING WITH OUR JURIDICAL POSITION AS A MEMBER OF LATIN AMERICAN CONFERENCE.

6. THIS CABLE IS IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST BY EMBASSY PANAMA AND PREPARED BY ALTERNATE KRIESBERG WHO VISITED SAN JOSE FOLLOWING PANAMA MEETINGS.
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